

CHARTER

(The Charter of the City and County of Denver, which can only be changed by a vote of the citizens of Denver, devotes pages 81 through 86 to the duties and responsibilities of the Board of Water Commissioners. Following are excerpts from these pages.)

“There shall be and hereby is continued and created a non-political Board of Water Commissioners of five members, to have complete charge and control of a water works system and plant for supplying the City and County of Denver and its inhabitants with water for all uses and purposes

“The Board shall have and exercise all the powers of the City and County of Denver including those granted by the Constitution and by the law of the State of Colorado and by the Charter in regard to purchasing, condemning and purchasing, acquiring, constructing, leasing, extending and adding to, maintaining, conducting and operating a water works system and plant for all uses and purposes, and everything necessary, pertaining or incidental thereto, including authority to dispose of real or personal property not useful for or required in the water works operation. The Board shall have authority to generate and dispose of electric energy for water works purposes or any other purpose of the City and County of Denver The Board shall have power in the name of the City and County of Denver to make and execute contracts, take and give instruments of conveyance, and do all other things necessary or incidental to the powers herein granted The Board shall institute and defend all litigation affecting its powers and duties or in relation to said water works system and plant and the property and rights connected therewith or incidental thereto

“There is hereby created a Water Works Fund into which shall be placed all revenues received from the operation of the water works system and plant together with all monies coming into said fund from other sources. All revenues of the Water Department shall daily be turned over to the Treasurer of the City and County of Denver who shall open and keep a separate account for said Water Works Fund and shall faithfully account for all monies received and disbursed on account thereof . . .

“The Board shall fix rates for which water shall be furnished for all purposes within the City and County of Denver, and rates shall be as low as good service will permit. Rates may be sufficient to pay for operation, maintenance, reserves, debt service, additions, extensions, betterments, including those reasonably required for the anticipated growth of the Denver metropolitan area, and to provide for Denver's general welfare

“ . . . Rates charged for water furnished for use inside the city limits of the City and County of Denver shall be uniform as far as practicable and so related to the service furnished or the volume of water used as to bring about a fair and equitable distribution among all water users of the total amount to be realized from revenues derived from the sale of water used within the City and County of Denver

“The Board shall have power to lease water and water rights for use outside the territorial limits of the City and County of Denver, but such leases shall provide for limitations of delivery of water to whatever extent may be necessary to enable the Board to provide an adequate supply of water to the people of Denver and provided, further, that every such lease shall contain terms to secure the payment into the Water Works Fund of sufficient money to fully reimburse the people of Denver for the cost of furnishing the water or water right which is the subject of such lease together with an additional amount to be determined by the Board

“Bonds, the proceeds of which shall be placed in the Water Works Fund and expended by the Board of Water Commissioners for water works purposes in the sole discretion of the Board, and secured by the general credit of the City and County of Denver and payable as to interest and principal from general ad valorem taxes which may be levied without limitation of rate or amount may be issued upon approval of the same class of electors as is provided for approval of issuance of other general obligation bonds of the City and County of Denver”